PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant	's or agent's file reference								
F 31	.5 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416						
Internatio	nal application No.	International filing date (day/mor	nth/year) Priority date (day/month/year)						
PCT/	'EP2005/000732	26.01.2005	30.01.2004						
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H05B7/105, F27D11/10 Applicant									
DUNG, Arndt									
	1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.								
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of	sh	eets, including this cover sheet.						
3.	This report is also accompanied by	ANNEXES, comprising:							
	a. (sent to the applicant an	d to the International Bureau) a tota	l of sheets, as follows:						
	sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).								
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.								
		l Bureau only) a total of (indicate ty	pe and number of electronic carrier(s))						
			, containing a sequence listing and/or tables						
	related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).								
4.	This report contains indications rela	ting to the following items:							
	Box No. I Basis of th	e report							
	Box No. II Priority								
	Box No. III Non-estab	lishment of opinion with regard to n	ovelty, inventive step and industrial applicability						
	Box No. IV Lack of ur	ity of invention							
	BON I TO. T	statement under Article 35(2) with r nd explanations supporting such stat	egard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; tement						
	Box No. VI Certain do	cuments cited							
	Box No. VII Certain de	fects in the international application							
	Box No. VIII Certain ob	servations on the international appli	cation						
Date of su	ubmission of the demand	Date of con	mpletion of this report						
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP			officer						
Facsimile	No.	Telephone	No.						

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/000732

Box	No. I	Basis of the report					
1.		h regard to the language, this report is based on the internation cated under this item.	nal application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise				
	This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:						
		international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))					
		publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)					
	*****	international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/					
2.	rece	Vith regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the ceiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to is report):					
		the international application as originally filed/furnished					
	\bowtie	the description:					
		pages 1-5	as originally filed/furnished				
		pages*	received by this Authority on				
		pages*	received by this Authority on				
	\boxtimes	the claims:					
		nos 1-9	as originally filed/furnished				
		nos.*	as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19				
		nos.*	received by this Authority on				
		nos.*	received by this Authority on				
	\boxtimes	the drawings:					
		sheets 1/2-2/2	as originally filed/furnished				
			received by this Authority on				
			received by this Authority on				
		a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Suppleme					
3.	Ш	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:	amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:				
		the description, pages					
		the claims, nos.	the claims, nos.				
		the drawings, sheets/figs					
		the sequence listing (specify):					
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):					
4.		This report has been established as if (some of) the amend they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as fil	ments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since ed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).				
		the description, pages					
		the claims, nos.					
		the drawings, sheets/figs	the drawings, sheets/figs				
		the sequence listing (specify):					
*	If ite	em 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "supe	rseded."				

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/000732

Box	No. V			ticle 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; porting such statement	
1.	Statement				
	Novelty	(N)	Claims	1-9	YES
			Claims		NO
	Inventive	e step (IS)	Claims	1-9	YES
			Claims		NO
	Industria	l applicability (IA)	Claims	1-9	YES
			Claims		NO

- 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)
 - 1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: US 4 700 356 A

2. Novelty (PCT Article 33(1) and 33(2))

The application meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

Document D1 discloses a contact block with a central through-hole which extends into the support arm.

The subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(1) and 33(2)) because not all the technical features of independent claim 1 are found in D1.

3. Inventive step (PCT Article 33(1) and 33(3))

The application meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

The problem of impaired current transfer owing to baked-on deposits produced by erosion between a contact block and a contact plate is solved by a central through-hole in the contact block which extends into the support arm. The eroded material can be carried away through this hole ("through-hole") and through the hollow support arm, thereby reducing the amount of baked-on deposits.

There is nothing in D1 to suggest such a solution to this problem, and the solution according to independent claim 1 is not obvious from general deliberations based on the teaching of D1.

No other document was found that might solve the problem in a similar way and be combined with D1 to challenge the inventiveness of the claimed solution. Independent claim 1 therefore involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(1) and 33(3)).

4. Claims 2 to 9 are dependent on claim 1 and are therefore also novel and inventive (PCT Rule 6.4(a) and (b)).